

Insect Study Merit Badge at Riverbend Park

Welcome to the Insect Study Merit Badge program at Riverbend Park. The program is held at the Riverbend Visitor Center located at 8700 Potomac Hills Street in Great Falls.

Below is the recommended homework to be completed before the program:

We recommend that you download the merit badge worksheets from meritbadge.com and bring these worksheets to class. These worksheets help scouts organize their homework and classwork.

Requirement 1. Tell how insects are different from all other animals. Show how insects are different from centipedes and spiders.

Requirement 5.b. Describe some general methods of insect control.

Requirement 6. Compare the life histories of a butterfly and a grasshopper. Tell how they are different.

Requirement 11. Find out about three career opportunities in insect study. Pick one and find out about the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.

What to bring to the program:

- Bring a digital camera. Please ensure the camera is ready to take photographs (batteries, memory card) and that you know how to use the camera.
- Bring your blue card (Riverbend does not have blue cards.)
- Bring your completed homework. It is OK if you cannot complete the homework before class. You can bring completed homework in at a later date for sign-off.
- Bring/wear weather appropriate clothing/outerwear. We will not go outdoors in heavy rain or thunderstorms. Boy Scout uniform not required.
- Bring a pencil and pen.
- Bring a flashlight, if the program is held after dusk.
- We recommend that you download the merit badge worksheets from meritbadge.com and bring these worksheets to class. These worksheets help scouts organize their homework and classwork.
- Bring a snack and drink or money to purchase some at the visitor center. Bring more substantial food if your program is longer than four hours.

Homework to be completed after the program:

The merit badge counselor will do a demonstration or explain the process for completing the final merit badge requirements. Your scout must provide evidence of completion in order to obtain blue card sign-off. Digital photographs of your scout doing the element and a picture of the completed requirement will be sufficient evidence.

If your scout has a strong understanding of the requirement, he is welcome to complete this requirement at any time. Remember to document work and completion via digital pictures.

Requirement 7. Raise an insect through the complete metamorphosis from its larval stage to its adult stage (e.g. raise a butterfly or moth from a caterpillar).

Once the prework, class work and post homework are completed, all elements of the merit badge will be complete.

If your scout needs blue card sign-off after the class date, please call 703-759-9018 to arrange a time to meet with a merit badge counselor.

We're looking forward to working with your scout.

Riverbend's Merit Badge Counselors

Karen Sheffield, Ethan Kuhnenn, Tina Driskell, Chris Kopsick, Michelle Brannon, Marijke Gate

Karen Sheffield

Senior Interpreter, Riverbend Park

Fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend

703-759-9018

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